GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4041
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2017
Qualification for Gram Panchayat
Mishra Shri Bhairon Prasad

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken any decision to set minimum educational qualification for candidates contesting election for the post of Gram Panchayat Pramukhs (Pradhan) so as to strengthen the Panchayati Raj System, if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government has consulted the State Governments in this regard, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
(c) whether the Government proposes to enforce the rule regarding minimum educational qualification for candidates contesting Panchayat Poll, after discussing the matter with the State Governments and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPULA)

(a) to (c): There is no proposal under consideration in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) to set minimum educational qualification for candidates contesting election for the post of Gram Panchayat Pramukhs (Pradhan). 'Panchayats' being 'Local Bodies' is a state subject. Under Article 243F (1) −a person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of a Panchayat −
(a) if he so disqualified by or under any law for the time being in force for the purpose of elections to the Legislature of the State concerned :
Provided that no person shall be disqualified on the ground that he is less than twenty five years of age, if he has attained the age of twenty one years and
(b) if he is so disqualified by or under any law made by the Legislature of the State.